

§ 1620.13 Prior employer contributions.

Any employing authority that has made employer contributions before the publication date of this subpart will not be deemed to have chosen to make these contributions by virtue of these payments. However, if such an authority fails to choose to make employer contributions, contributions previously made on behalf of an eligible employee may not be retrieved.

§ 1620.14 Deadline for employing authority to begin employee contributions.

An employing authority must allow employees participating in the Federal Employees' Retirement System or the Civil Service Retirement System to make contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan no later than the pay period following its acceptance of the employee's election form.

§ 1620.15 Initial election period for employees.

Employees who are participating in the Civil Service Retirement System or the Federal Employees' Retirement System must be permitted to file an election form with the employing authority identifying the amount, if any, of their contribution to the Thrift Savings Plan at any time within 60 days of the date of publication of this subpart. Any employee who was eligible to participate in a prior election period, but was denied the opportunity to do so, must be given the opportunity to make any election which he or she could have otherwise made in 1987 or 1988.

§ 1620.16 Computing percentage of basic pay.

When the employing authority computes a percentage of basic pay to determine the amount to be contributed to the Thrift Savings Fund, the rate of basic pay to be used must be the same as that used in computing any amount the individual is otherwise required to contribute to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund as a condition for participating in the Civil Service Retirement System or the Federal Employees' Retirement System, as the case may be.

§ 1620.17 Retroactive employer and employee contributions.

(a) *Retroactive employer contributions.* An employing authority that has chosen to make employer contributions may make the employer contributions described in § 1620.12(b) on behalf of employees participating in the Federal Employees' Retirement System to the extent that neither the employing authority nor the Federal Government has already made these contributions. The employing authority must make these retroactive employer contributions in accordance with the procedure described in § 1620.37 of this part.

(b) *Retroactive employee contributions.* Employees participating in the Civil Service Retirement System or the Federal Employees' Retirement System shall be allowed to make, on a retroactive basis, all employee contributions for eligible periods of service with the employing authority unless these employees have already had the opportunity to make contributions for these periods of service. Retroactive employee contributions shall be made in accordance with the procedures described in § 1620.36 of this part.

§ 1620.18 Payment to the recordkeeper; notice.

(a) *Payment.* Employing authorities will make applicable employer contributions, if any, and employee contributions (deducted from the employee's actual pay) to the Board's Recordkeeper. At this time, the Recordkeeper is the National Finance Center, Department of Agriculture, New Orleans, Louisiana.

(b) *Notice.* Within 30 days from the date of the publication of this part, the Department of Agriculture must notify each employing authority concerning the applicability of these regulations to employees covered by § 1620.10 of this part.

§ 1620.19 Other regulations.

Employing authorities and individuals covered by § 1620.10 of this part are governed by the regulations in chapter VI, title 5, Code of Federal Regulations to the extent that those regulations are not inconsistent with this subpart.